

AIRGRAM

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FROM - CINCPAC SEOUL

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and Congressman Judd

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Senator Hickenlooper of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Congressman Judd of Minnesota were included among the official delegates attending the third inauguration of President Rhee in Seoul on August 15. Senator Hickenlooper spent three full days here and Congressman Judd two. Both left early on the morning of August 17 in order to keep appointments in the United States.

Owing to commitments on the part of the official delegation at inaugural events, Congressman Judd had little time for specific inquiry or briefing regarding the OEC program. Senator Hickenlooper managed to crowd in a 40-minute briefing and asked many interested questions. He was supplied, at the request of Francis R. Valeo of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Staff who accompanied Senator Hickenlooper, a briefing statement, a copy of which is attached.

Both Senator Hickenlooper and Mr. Judd were already well informed generally on matters in Korea and the subject of our program.

Congressman Judd talked to many people about Korean problems and reported to me that he had talked with President Rhee for a few minutes on the subject of our aid program. He said the President apparently felt that our efforts to include Japan among the nations in which Korean aid dollars might be spent were unfortunate.

Both Senator Hickenlooper and Congressman Judd had several opportunities to talk to Korean Ministers and other officials, with Korean newspaper officials and reporters, with missionaries, and with OEC staff members and others although, obviously because of their hurried schedule, not exhaustively on any subject. They were interested and friendly and I thought sympathetic with the Koreans and understanding of our problems.

Other visitors in the official delegation, including John May Whitney, Dr. Frederick Brown Harris, and Robert Gordon Sproull, President of the

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University of California, particularly, also displayed lively interests in our program and in the problems connected with Korean aid. Dr. Sproul spent an afternoon with us visiting the Tanginri power plant and discussing specific projects.

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Enclosure:

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